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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 2
Microsoft blames U.S. spy agency for WannaCry

18th May, 2017

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1705/170518-wannacry-ransomware-2.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

Microsoft is angry with America's National Security Agency (NSA). Microsoft said the WannaCry ransomware cyber-attack was because the NSA keeps cyber-weapons on its computers. Ransomware is a harmful software that blocks access to computers until the owner pays money (a ransom) to the hackers. The NSA is a military intelligence organization. It helps America's communications and information systems to stay safe. It also stops cyber-attacks against the USA. However, experts say the WannaCry ransomware used spying tools that were designed by the NSA.

Microsoft said governments must wake up to the problem of storing cyber-weapons. It said hackers can steal them and it was as dangerous as stealing missiles. Microsoft's president said: "This attack provides yet another example of why [governments keeping these things]…is such a problem." Europe's police agency said WannaCry has affected 200,000 computers in 150 countries. It made many problems for Britain's National Health Service. Many operations were cancelled. Experts warned people to back up their files because more attacks could come.

PHRASE MATCHING

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1.	Microsoft is angry with America's	a.	against the USA
2.	software that blocks access	b.	information systems
3.	the owner pays money	c.	by the NSA
4.	communications and	d.	(a ransom)
5.	stay	e.	National Security Agency
6.	It also stops cyber-attacks	f.	tools
7.	spying	g.	safe
8.	designed	h.	to computers

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1.	governments must wake	a.	example of why
2.	the problem of	b.	them
3.	hackers can steal	c.	up their files
4.	as dangerous	d.	storing cyber-weapons
5.	This attack provides yet another	e.	cancelled
6.	WannaCry has affected	f.	up
7.	Many operations were	g.	200,000 computers
8.	Experts warned people to back	h.	as stealing missiles

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

Microsoft (1) _____ America's National Security Agency (NSA). Microsoft said the WannaCry ransomware cyber-attack was because the NSA keeps cyber-(2) _____ computers. Ransomware (3) _____ software that blocks access to computers (4) _____ pays money (a ransom) to the hackers. The NSA is a military intelligence organization. It helps America's communications and information (5) _____. It also stops cyber-attacks against the USA. However, experts say the WannaCry ransomware used spying tools that (6) _____ the NSA.

Microsoft said governments must (7) _____ problem of storing cyber-weapons. It said hackers can steal them (8) _____ dangerous as stealing missiles. Microsoft's president said: "This attack provides (9) _____ of why [governments keeping these things]…is such a problem." Europe's police agency said WannaCry (10) _____ 200,000 computers in 150 countries. It made many problems for Britain's National Health Service. Many (11) _____ cancelled. Experts warned people (12) _____ files because more attacks could come.

PUT A SLASH (/)WHERE THE SPACES ARE

MicrosoftisangrywithAmerica'sNationalSecurityAgency(NSA).Micro
softsaidtheWannaCryransomwarecyber-attackwasbecausetheNS
Akeepscyber-weaponsonitscomputers.Ransomwareisaharmfulsof
twarethatblocksaccesstocomputersuntiltheownerpaysmoney(aran
som)tothehackers.TheNSAisamilitaryintelligenceorganization.Ithel
psAmerica'scommunicationsandinformationsystemstostaysafe.Ital
sostopscyber-attacksagainsttheUSA.However,expertssaytheWan
naCryransomwareusedspyingtoolsthatweredesignedbytheNSA.Mic
rosoftsaidgovernmentsmustwakeuptotheproblemofstoringcyber-w
eapons.Itsaidhackerscanstealthemanditwasasdangerousasstealing
missiles.Microsoft'spresidentsaid:"Thisattackprovidesyetanotherex
ampleofwhy[governmentskeepingthesethings]…issuchaproblem."E
urope'spoliceagencysaidWannaCryhasaffected200,000computersi
n150countries.ItmademanyproblemsforBritain'sNationalHealthSer
vice.Manyoperationswerecancelled.Expertswarnedpeopletobackup
theirfilesbecausemoreattackscouldcome.

RANSOMWARE SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about ransomware in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

Write about **ransomware** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____